

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A base station (BS) is configured to support a plurality of mobile stations on the reverse link by selectively designating one or more of them as members in a rate-controlled set. Members follow the common rate control commands broadcast by the BS, while non-members do not. The non-members preferably fall back to a minimum data rate. Set members each provide feedback to the BS indicating whether the member is "mobile-limited" wherein it cannot increase its reverse link data rate even if commanded to do so by the BS, or whether the member is "command-limited" wherein the member could increase its data rate but is not permitted to do so by the BS. The BS dynamically adjusts membership in the set to maintain a balance between having too many mobile-limited or command-limited members, since either condition is inefficient. The BS also may adjust membership by attempting to equalize membership times in the set.